Presumptive MACT For Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

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Emission Standards Division US Environmental Protection Agency

The following presentation serves as an update to the July 1998 briefing*. The previous briefing served to identify the source category, discuss the industry profile and outline the maximum achievable control technology (MACT) rulemaking process. The purpose of this paper is to document the presumptive maximum achievable control technology (PMACT) recommendations. As discussed in the July 1998 briefing, the affected sources are municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills that are major sources of hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions and MSW landfills located at sites that are major sources of HAP emissions. In addition, area sources will be addressed in this rulemaking because they have been identified as contributors to urban air pollution in the urban air toxics (UAT) strategy. The statutory basis of the UAT strategy is section 112(k) of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

Overview of Presentation

- PMACT Definition
- Purpose of PMACT
- PMACT Recommendation Process
- PMACT Recommendations
- Next Steps
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PMACT Definition

• PMACT is an estimate of the MACT requirements for a source category based on available data that can be obtained quickly.

• PMACT is information to be considered by interested stakeholders and is not legally binding.

Purpose of PMACT

- To assist agencies, industry and the public in section 112(g) case-by-case MACT determinations and with section 112(j) hammer provision standards.
- To enhance up front planning (i.e., identify issues to be resolved early in the process).
- To make recommendations for the proposed regulatory path.

PMACT Recommendation Process

- The PMACT recommendations are based on a review of quickly available information such as source test data, technology in-use information, State regulations and permit information. From this information, pollutants of interest, emissions points and potential levels of control are identified.
- The pollutants of interest are the HAP listed in section 112(b) of the CAA that are emitted from MSW landfills.
- The emission points are the source category specific release points for the pollutants of interest.
- Using criteria specified in section 112(d) of the CAA (i.e., technology used by the top 12% performing sites), levels of control, technology/hardware and operational practices are recommended.

PMACT Recommendations

- Pollutants of Interest--Approximately 30 HAP have been identified as potential emissions.
- Emission Points—The "emission points" are: (1) landfill gas from decomposing waste, (2) landfill wastewater (leachate and condensate) and (3) petroleum contaminated daily cover soils.
- Levels of Control/Technology/Work
 Practices--For landfill gas emissions,
 comply with the control levels and
 practices in 40 CFR part 60 subpart
 WWW. For landfill wastewater, the
 level of control is no control.* For
 petroleum contaminated soil used as
 daily cover, the level of control is no
 control.*

*If new emissions or control data become available and indicate that control is warranted, EPA's position on these issues may change.

Next Steps

- Determine MACT floor--level of control based on an evaluation of information beyond PMACT.
- Identify alternatives beyond the MACT floor--more stringent levels of control with potentially greater environmental benefits.
- Consider costs, health, environmental and energy requirements of the alternatives.
- Determine MACT for major sources.
- Determine generally achievable control technology (GACT) requirements for area sources--MACT or something less stringent?
- Propose regulation and respond to public comments.
- Promulgate regulation.

Schedule of Next Major Steps

- Determine MACT
- Determine GACT
- Propose Rule
- Promulgate Rule

- September 1999
- October 1999
- April 2000
- April 2001

Closing Comments

• PMACT is based on easily obtainable information. It indicates an initial regulatory path that serves as information for States and stakeholders to consider. Since the determination of PMACT, additional information has been gathered and evaluated. This information is being used to make MACT and GACT determinations and to move forward with the rulemaking process. If interested stakeholders have data and other information pertinent to this rulemaking effort, they should be sent to Michele Laur. To be useable, the information must be as detailed and complete as possible indicating facility location and other relevant information.

Sites For Additional Information

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